

THE ALMA RECORD

VOL. XLII.—NO. 51

\$2.00 the year—5c the copy

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1921

TWELVE PAGES

WHOLE NUMBER 2191

FIRST ENDOWMENT WORK IS STARTED

CHOOSE WORKERS FOR CAMPAIGN

Chairmen Are Selected for Various Committees in the County Drive.

KARL ADAMS IS TREASURER

Commanders of Divisions Each Name Eight Captains to Lead the Teams.

Plans for the Alma College Endowment Campaign, especially in Gratiot county are going forward and it is expected that within a very few days the teams will all be selected and ready to mark time for the opening of the local campaign, which will start on April 4, and come to a close on April 11.

In addition to the announcement last week of Jotham Allen as chairman for the county and the appointment of the division commanders for Alma, William W. Cushing, Joseph L. Winslow and Ralph B. Wagner, announcement has now been made of various chairmen, captains to work under the division commanders, and the workers for the teams have been practically all selected.

Rev. Matt W. Duffey, pastor of the First M. E. church of this city, has been appointed as publicity chairman for the county. He is arranging a committee which will have representatives in each town and city of the county. Homer M. Dunham has been named by Rev. Duffey to take charge of the work in Alma.

Carl H. Washburn has been named as chairman of the preliminary gifts committee. Frank E. Pollack will be the chairman of the lists committee. Karl R. Adams will act as treasurer of the organization.

William W. Cushing, commander of Division A; J. L. Winslow, commander of Division B; and Ralph B. Wagner, commander of Division C, have named captains as follows:

William W. Cushing, commander of Division A—Phillip W. Greaser, Eugene Holcomb, A. A. Chick, Donald B. Smith, William G. Falor, H. M. Dunham, Paul Crandell and Earl C. Clapp.

J. L. Winslow, commander of Division B—A. G. Moore, James Naylor, C. J. Dana, Joseph L. Biggerstaff, Floyd Maxwell, Glen Crisp, William Moody and H. Allen.

Ralph B. Wagner, commander of Division C—H. S. Babcock, Jerome Kanter, Benjamin Berman, Stephen L. Bennett, Rev. Shouffer, E. J. Merrill, Rev. Gelston and W. E. Wilson.

Tuesday afternoon the commanders and the captains of the teams of the various divisions met in directors' rooms and selected their workers. Each captain will have five workers under his charge for the big campaign in Alma. Seven names were selected for each captain, and it is expected that five workers will be obtained by each from this list.

As soon as the workers are secured their names will be turned back to the commanders.

It is expected that the next meeting of the workers will be held at the Presbyterian church at 1 o'clock next Tuesday afternoon, March 23, at which time the definite instructions for the campaign will be given.

The opening dinner of the big campaign will be held at Wright Hall at 6:15 Friday evening, April 1, which will be attended not only by the workers from this city, but by all of the workers from the entire county, and it is expected that at that time from 250 to 300 people, who are to work in the drive, will be present.

REVIVAL SERVICES

The special two weeks' revival meetings which were held at the Baptist church under the direction of Evangelist J. J. Pease were a success in every way. Large audiences were in attendance and more than 60 persons were converted. Rev. Pease is now engaged in like campaign at Big Rapids.

DIES AT MASONIC HOME

Harry Calvert, a resident of the Michigan Masonic Home here for some years, died at the home Sunday at the age of 77 years. The body was shipped to Battle Creek the first of the week for burial.

ATTENTION FARMERS

There will be a meeting at Forest Hill March 21, at 1 p. m., for the purpose of perfecting an elevator association at Forest Hill. All interested in fertilizer, binder twine and wool be sure and come. Gifford Patch of East Lansing will speak.—adv.

STRONG TEAM

High School Has Promise of Strong Diamond Team.

With several veterans to start spring workouts, including Stearns, a veteran hurler, who in past years has compiled a fine record pitching for the high schoolers, the Orange and Black is looking forward to a fine season on the diamond this year and is making preparations to meet some of the larger nines of the state.

Among some of the other old men that the high school coaches will have to start training season with are Hyde, Cross and Lee Lyons, all of whom have shown considerable ability in the National pastime. In addition to the old men who will be out for the team it is expected that from thirty to forty new men will be out for the aggregation and hopes of the fans at the high school over the approaching season are rising daily.

Efforts are being made, not only to schedule the stronger teams of this and adjoining counties, but the management is also arranging games with some of the strongest high schools in the state, and it is very probable that Arthur Hill, Saginaw East Side and possibly one of the Bay City schools will be played on the diamond. Flint Central High, another well rated school in baseball, has already been curried, two games having been arranged with the Vehicle City nine, one to be played here and one to be played in Flint.

LYCEUM COURSE ENDS MONDAY

"The Climax." Last Number. Is a Delightfully Pleasing Comedy.

"The Climax," which appears at the Strand theater Monday evening, the final number on the 1920-1921 lyceum course, is being received with wonderful favor wherever it has appeared, and it is believed that Locke's wonderful comedy will prove just as enticing to its Alma audience. The following taken from a Platteville, Wisconsin, paper indicates the class of the production:

"A short time ago, the motion pictures presented at the Normal were advertised as 'Picture That Are Worth While.' But the play, 'The Climax,' merits the slogan 'A Stage Play That is Exceedingly Worth While.' That is what one concludes after hearing and seeing 'The Climax,' by Edward Locke, given as it was on the evening of February 22. This play, though it required but one stage setting and a cast of but four persons, was presented most entertainingly. Dorothy Seeger as Adeline charmed the audience with her delightful pure and flexible soprano voice and her good acting. The pianist composer, Pietro Gelfonti, was played by Walter Dale, of the original New York cast, whose mastery of the piano was exceptionally artistic. The father, as played by Charles Fleming, found his way into the hearts of his listeners. All four members of the cast were artists in every sense of the word. In the second scene when Adeline realized that she had lost her voice and that her hopes for a career were blasted, she enacted a splendid scene of despair. All through the audience the whisper could be heard: 'Look at the expression on that girl's face!' The uncertain ending of the play was one of its many charms. The curtain falls as Adeline sings Pietro's new melody, 'The Song of the Soul,' composed especially for her, to Pietro's accompaniment."

Those who desire to witness this great production, and do not have season tickets for the course, may obtain tickets for this production at the box office at the Strand theater. A number of tickets are still available, but should be ordered at once, as they will not last long.

PRE-EASTER REVIVAL

Alma churches are co-operating in the county wide Pre-Easter campaign. Each church will carry on its own program beginning "Palm Sunday," March 20. Teams for the various churches will distribute invitations to every home Sunday afternoon. Simultaneous meetings will be held every night during the week at 7:30 p. m. and special services will be held during the afternoon on "Good Friday" from 12 o'clock noon till 3 p. m.

Every church participating in this special effort extends an urgent request to church members to attend the meetings. A cordial invitation is extended to non-church goers to attend the church of their choice.

ATTENDANCE HOLDING UP

Increase in Number Enrolled in Alma Public Schools Is Shown.

CURRICULUM IS BROADENED

Supervised Study Yielding Good Results According to Statistics Just Compiled.

That the attendance at the Alma public schools has not been falling away as rumor has had it of late, is shown by the attendance figures of a year ago and the present time, which were given out by J. W. Kelder, superintendent, along with other valuable and highly interesting data in regard to Alma's schools, which indicates that the schools here have a high rating.

In February 1920 the enrollment in the grades was 1515, and in the high school 367. February 1921 shows an enrollment of 1540 in the grades and 367 in the high school, an increase of 25 over a year ago. The actual number of students attending the public schools, February 28, 1921, as compared with the same time last year, shows an increase of 24 for the year. Under existing conditions such an increase must be regarded as a healthy one.

In educational matters a great improvement has been shown in an improved educational morale among the students, a higher class teaching force, in supervised study, in classification according to ability that is shown by students, in improved methods of teaching and of measuring the results of instruction, in improved educational equipment, in a broadened and more flexible curriculum, in improved standards of scholarship, a decrease in the number of failures, and in extra curricular activities, such as campfire girls organizations, debating societies, athletics, senior memorial project, and use of the high school building every night by various citizen organizations.

Some of the evidences of educational growth that are being shown in the schools consist of increased attendance, and a marked decrease in tardiness. The attendance now averages about 96 per cent per month, while tardiness in high school averages only about 13 cases per month, or less than one a day among the 323 actually attending high school, making the best record known in the entire state.

Another evidence of the educational growth is the fact that supervised study has greatly decreased the number of failures in the high school. A comparison of the first semester of 1919-20 with the year 1920-21 shows a decrease of 15 per cent in the number of students who failed in one subject and a decrease of 10 per cent in the number of students who failed in two subjects.

In the grades the attendance now averages about 94 per cent per month, while tardiness has dropped to about 4 cases per 100 pupils per month, a record that is remarkably low.

The use of standardized tests in the grades has made possible a detailed and helpful diagnosis of the weaknesses that pupils show, and also gives a sure and accurate measurement of the results of teaching. Standardized tests have been given in a number of subjects, but space prevents the giving of detailed results. Scores in the standardized reading tests, in November, 1920, as compared with January, 1921, from grade 3B to grade 8A shows an average increase of 18.3.

Other interesting facts connected with the schools are that the Washington school teachers prepare warm lunches for pupils, who on account of the distance cannot go home at noon, and the furnishing of milk provided by citizens organizations, for school children who are under weight; a desired co-operation between schools and home, furnished by the Parent-Teacher Associations; and the classifying of pupils according to ability, giving every child an opportunity to work to his or her maximum capacity.

DIED AT EVART

Mrs. Joseph Watson, wife of Rev. Joseph Watson for many years, was the pastor of the Free Methodist church of this city, died in Evart Monday, according to word that has been received here. The body was shipped to Alma this morning and the funeral will be held this afternoon from the Free Methodist church, corner of Cedar and West Center streets.

START CLUB

Farm Bureau and Business Men Start Calf and Pig Club.

The boys and girls calf and pig clubs that have worked out so successfully in other counties of the state, are being started in Gratiot county with every promise of the same high degree of success that has been attained elsewhere.

A number of business men and bankers have realized the value of this work and have volunteered to co-operate with the Gratiot Farm Bureau in this respect. The farm boys and girls under twenty years of age who wish to own a pedigreed calf or pig of any breed that they desire, should communicate at once with the Farm Bureau headquarters at Ithaca. Those who cannot finance the purchase of a registered calf or pig, may obtain aid from the banks, which will advance money to purchase the animal desired.

The one main rule of the clubs will be that the calf or pigs must be given good care.

All profits from the animal, when it is sold, will belong to the boy or girl owning it. The profits should be large in proportion to the outlay and in addition will give a good knowledge of the care that pure bred animals should have.

George Ryan was in Ithaca on business Tuesday.

TO START TANK CONSTRUCTION

200,000 Gallon Elevated Tank Will Be Ready Within a Few Weeks.

With the material on the ground for the elevated tank, and the piers for the support of this 200,000 gallon affair, which in conjunction with the million gallon reservoir that is to be constructed, already built, it is expected that a force of men will be ready to start the actual construction work next week.

During the past few weeks men have been busy constructing the seven large concrete piers that are to be used for the support of the tank, and there have now set sufficiently to stand the weight that must be put upon them by the tank and its contents. Workmen are now busy grading and filling in around the piers, to level up the ground and make much better working conditions for the gang of men that will be used in constructing the tank.

It is expected that the work of constructing the affair will take from six to eight weeks, depending to a great extent upon the weather during that time. A representative of the Pittsburgh Des Moines Steel Co. is now on the ground getting everything in readiness for the work.

Just when the work of constructing the million-gallon concrete reservoir is to be started is not known, but the city officials are entertaining hopes that the contractor will be able to get started on this work within the next thirty days, if the weather conditions continue as favorable as they are at present. The construction work of the reservoir will require some weeks of time and probably will not be ready until after the tank is completely built and ready for use.

The new pumps for the pumping station have arrived and will be installed within the next few days. Tuesday the forms for the base of the pumps were poured, and as soon as the concrete sets sufficiently the pumps will be put in place in the pumping station and connected up.

FARM BUREAU NEWS

All appreciate the influence of early impressions. With this in mind, boys and girls have been organized into clubs of various kinds. These clubs have a marked influence on their members none will question.

The county agents are very successful with calf, pig, crop, sewing and canning clubs. This line of work will be taken up by the Gratiot County Farm Bureau in co-operation with the Y. M. C. A. and schools. It is hoped that the teachers who are interested in club work will get in touch with the Y. M. C. A. at Alma or the Farm Bureau at Ithaca.

Mr. Turner, the state boys' and girls' club leader, will be in the county soon to fully explain the plans that the college people deem best. The local banks as far as interviewed are willing to aid in financing the movement.

The clubs should be formed as soon as possible in order to make a good exhibit at the county fair.

STUDENTS ESTABLISH NATION-WIDE RECORD WITH 100 PER CENT PLEDGE IN BIG DRIVE

Fund Wednesday Night Was \$2,549.50 in Excess of the \$10,000 Set for the Student-Faculty Campaign Which Opened Tuesday.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Record has received numerous anonymous communications during the past few months, some of which have advocated excellent ideas and others of no particular value to the community. It is our invariable custom to print no anonymous communications, good, bad or indifferent, and we respectfully ask all people who wish to use the columns of The Record to sign all communications. We shall be glad to give the space for an open forum for discussion of all matters of importance to the city and community, and hope that Record patrons will feel free to discuss public questions in a helpful way over their own signatures, because such discussion if written in a spirit of fairness and helpfulness can be of great value to the community.

ELKS ENTERTAIN

Alma B. P. O. E. to Entertain Next Week Thursday Evening.

The Alma lodge of Elks will entertain at a card party, luncheon and smoker at the Elks lodge rooms on East Superior street, on Thursday evening, March 24.

A number of Alma people are being invited to be the guests of the lodge that evening, and a number of out of town guests are also being invited to attend the function. It is expected that nearly 300 in all will be present at the affair.

INJURIES CAUSE DEATH OF LAD

Boy Died as Result of Injuries Received While at Play.

Orland Welcome Chapman aged 13 years, died Sunday, March 15, at a local hospital, as the result of complications resulting from an injury received on the school grounds, when playing with a number of companions a few weeks ago.

Orland Chapman was born at Coleman, December 22, 1907, and came to Alma with his parents nine years ago. He was a member of the pioneer group of the Y. M. C. A., and a member of the Sunday School of the Methodist Episcopal church.

He is survived by his parents, one sister, Orlean, and two brothers, Verne and William.

The funeral services were held at the Methodist Episcopal church on Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, Rev. Matt W. Duffey officiating. The remains were placed in the vault in Riverside cemetery.

MERCHANTS' BUREAU

Chamber or Commerce Organizes Retail Merchants' Branch.

A large number of business men of the city were present at the meeting held at the city hall last Thursday evening, which had for its end the formation of a Retail Merchants' Bureau of the Alma Chamber of Commerce.

Addresses pertaining to a merchants' bureau, its work and the various ways in which it would be of aid to the business men of the city and also to the public at large were made. Among those who spoke were William W. Cushing and H. E. Reece. They expressed themselves as well pleased with the possibilities that such an organization offered.

Before the meeting was brought to an end a committee consisting of Lloyd Ellison D. W. Robinson, J. A. Bartley, Floyd H. Glass and F. C. Mapes was appointed to investigate the proposition and report at a meeting to be held in the near future, the date of which would be set by the committee.

MOST WONDERFUL SHOWING MADE

Few Subscriptions From Faculty Members Still to Be Made Should Send Total Above the \$13,000 Mark, Campaigners Feel.

The wonderful example that was set by one of the students of Alma College has evidently been followed by the others, or else they, too, which probably is the case, were thoroughly imbued with that spirit that student's love to call "Alma College Spirit" because last night, at the close of the second day of the student-faculty drive for \$10,000, the quota assessed out of the \$635,000 additional endowment sought, the college quota had been passed, and Robert Wyatt, commander in charge of the campaign, stated that the students had come through 100 per cent strong with pledges to the support of the campaign.

Wednesday evening Mr. Wyatt stated that \$12,549.50 had been subscribed by students and the faculty members who had been seen up to that time. It is expected that the balance of the faculty members will have their pledges in today, and that the subscriptions to the student-faculty campaign will pass the \$13,000 mark before tonight.

At the end of the first day of the drive, Tuesday, when the totals of the day's work had been compiled, it was found that the pledges that had been made at that time amounted to \$7,615.75, and every confidence was then expressed that the closing day of the campaign, Friday, would find the quota topped. Even the most optimistic of the students did not expect that the drive would pass the quota mark on Wednesday.

In putting over this campaign the students of Alma College have created a new national record, as this is the first time on such a campaign that the students of any college or university have pledged themselves financially one hundred per cent "back in the support of such a campaign. Each an aspirant beginning for the \$635,000 endowment campaign augurs well for its success out in the state.

The wonderful result that has been achieved at the college in the drive, promises to have a great bearing on the campaign in Alma, Gratiot county, and out in the state, when the active campaigns are put under way. Friends of the college will be brought to realize more than ever before the deep impression that Alma College leaves upon those who attend the institution as students, when every one comes forth as one person in the greatest campaign the institution has ever undertaken, and gives a wonderful aid in making the work a success.

Not only does it speak a wonderful word for the student life of the institution, but speaks high words of encouragement for the bigger campaigns to be waged in Gratiot county and in the state at large, as well as regarding home the fact that Alma College is a college with a wonderful future.

The spirit that actuated the students of the college in the highly successful campaign is best shown by the action of one young lad who entered Alma College a year ago last fall. When he arrived in Alma he had just seventeen cents and was forced to borrow money to purchase his first breakfast in this city. But with a great determination to secure an education no matter what the odds, or how great the difficulties, he got a job, started in college and is there yet. He will be there until he finishes his course, it is certain. This young man made one of the first pledges to the student-faculty campaign. This lad who came to Alma with seventeen cents realized what Alma College was doing for him. His pledge to the endowment fund was \$50.00, a wonderful amount if one stops to consider the matter.

When the announcement of this pledge was made Tuesday morning by Russell Wilson, president of the Sophomore class, at the time that the active campaign was being opened among the students, there was a silence for a few moments in the

chapel, as the students endeavored to realize just how deep must have been the love of this particular young man for his college, that he would make such a great sacrifice for his school. That it was the true "Alma College Spirit" that actuated him, none could doubt.

The chapel services Tuesday morning, at which the students' campaign was opened, was in charge of Professor Albert P. Cook, who turned the meeting over to Robert Wyatt, commander of the college teams. Wyatt pounded home the need of the gymnasium. He brought the students to see that Alma, Gratiot county and the entire state of Michigan was waiting to see how the students of Alma College would respond to the call. Kicker, Wilson, and a number of the girls of the college were called upon for expressions in regard to the campaign and in every case they brought out the faith that the students had in the college and the determination that they had to put the quota over in short order.

The quota of the student-faculty campaign is just a part of the \$110,000 that is being sought in Gratiot county for the new memorial gymnasium, plans of which was on display at the college Tuesday.

The wonderful success that has greeted this preliminary campaign promises to be a big asset in the campaign in Alma and Gratiot county which will be the next to be waged, and it also will have a great bearing on the results that will be secured out in the state when the final big drive for the endowment funds is staged just prior to commencement.

BEEF GROWERS ATTENTION

Mr. C. E. Ackerman of Durand, president of the State Beef Growers Association, will speak in Brown hall at Ithaca on Saturday, March 19. From a Gratiot county farmer's standpoint the sugar beet question is most important. There is no one better fitted to discuss beet prices than Mr. Ackerman. The meeting is called for one o'clock. Come early, for the hall will be packed to the door.

Horses Wanted.—We will buy horses at the Wright House Livery, March 26, and at Feed Barn, Shepherd, Friday March 25; weight from 900 up; age from 5 yrs. up; must be fat. Bring them in. Rain or shine. Good buyers for the right horses. Weinburg Bros., Detroit, Mich.—adv